



## MEDI-CAL COUNTY PROGRAM MONTHLY AVERAGES FISCAL YEAR 1996-97

MEDI-CAL REPORT PUBLISHED: 1997  
Internet Homepage - <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/mcss>

### **ABSTRACT**

Summary of average monthly Medi-Cal program data, eligibles as a percent of the county population, rates of users per 100 eligibles, and cost per user for each county.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Utilization and provider payments for Medi-Cal services vary from county to county. This report updates prior reports and offers county data for Fiscal Year 1996-97.

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## **HIGHLIGHTS**

### **Table 1**

Statewide, an average of 5,313,560 persons were eligible for Medi-Cal each month of Fiscal Year (FY) 1996-97.

In FY 1996-97, the Medi-Cal population reflected 16.3 percent of California's total population.

The percentage of the population eligible for Medi-Cal varies sharply from county to county. In Merced County, 31.5 percent of the population was eligible while in Marin County, only 5.4 percent was eligible.

In most of the counties (49 of the 58), at least one person out of ten was eligible for Medi-Cal during FY 1996-97.

In Los Angeles County, 1,812,272 persons were eligible for Medi-Cal each month. This was 19.1 percent of the county's population. Los Angeles County accounted for 34.1 percent of the Statewide Medi-Cal population.

Over half of the total Medi-Cal population was located in only four counties: Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego and San Bernardino.

### **Table 2**

County Organized Health Systems (COHS) counties are not included in this table due to incomplete data.

Statewide, the percentage of persons who were eligible for regular Medi-Cal who actually used a covered service averaged 56.3 percent in FY 1996-97.

Fifty-Two California counties had user rates of 41.5 percent or more in FY 1996-97.

Alpine County whose eligible population averaged 242 persons per month, had the lowest user rate, 33.1 percent.

Statewide, the average cost per user was \$376.30. Sierra County's cost per user of \$813.53 was the highest and the lowest cost per user was Merced County's \$257.59.

In seven counties, the cost per user rates ran 25 percent or more below the Statewide average. Four counties had rates 25 percent or more above the Statewide average.

Various factors may influence the average cost per user in a county. One factor is the relative proportion of users receiving the more costly services, such as state hospital services, acute care hospital inpatient services, or long-term care.

### **DATA QUALIFICATIONS**

Figures in this report do not represent the official budget figures for medical and related expenditures.

Expenditures in this report represent cash flow payments for medical care. Included are provider payments made through Delta Dental, state hospitals, and the major fiscal intermediary, Electronic Data Systems.

Excluded from this report are Medi-Cal payments for Early Periodic Screening, Short Doyle/Medi-Cal, Medicare Buy-In, per capita payments for managed care plan coverage, audit recovery monies, refunds and administrative expenses.

County Organized Health Systems (COHS) are Medi-Cal pilot projects that are prepaid on a capitated at-risk basis. The first COHS went into effect June 1, 1983 in Monterey County and remained in effect through February 1985. A second was effective September 1, 1983 in Santa Barbara County. The Health Plan of San Mateo was effective December 1, 1987. The Solano Partnership Health Plan was effective May 1, 1994. Orange County Organized Health System (CalOPTIMA) was effective October 1, 1995. Santa Cruz County Health Options was effective January 1, 1996

Authorization and payment for most health care services are handled by the COHS for all Medi-Cal eligibles in the respective county. Certain services continue to be handled by other agencies, including dental services which are handled by Delta Dental (DD) for all counties. The Statewide COHS enrollment averaged 394,734 persons per month during FY 1996-97.

It should be noted that utilization and cost data for Medi-Cal Health Care Plan (HCP) enrollees are not available and are excluded in Table 2. The Statewide HCP enrollment averaged 1,082,858 persons per month during FY 1996-97.

A Geographic Managed Care (GMC) pilot project began April 1, 1994. Utilization and payment data reported in Table 2 for Sacramento County reflect only claims processed through the State's fiscal intermediaries (EDS and DD) and claims for state hospital services.

The lower figures for eligibles reported in Table 2 as compared to Table 1 reflect the exclusion of Managed Care Plans. The five COHS counties are excluded entirely.

TABLE 1  
COUNTY POPULATION, MEDI-CAL ELIGIBLES  
AND MEDI-CAL ELIGIBLES AS A PERCENT OF THE POPULATION  
FISCAL YEAR 1996-97

| COUNTY          | JANUARY 1, 1997<br>POPULATION | MEDI-CAL<br>ELIGIBLES/1/<br>(INCLUDING<br>MANAGED CARE PLANS) | ELIGIBLES<br>PER 100<br>POPULATION |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| STATEWIDE       | 32,609,000                    | 5,313,560   | 16.3                               |
| Alameda         | 1,375,900                     | 196,981   | 14.3                               |
| Alpine          | 1,180                         | 242   | 20.5                               |
| Amador          | 33,750                        | 2,588   | 7.7                                |
| Butte           | 199,100                       | 43,012  | 21.6                               |
| Calaveras       | 36,500                        | 5,185   | 14.2                               |
| Colusa          | 18,300                        | 3,587   | 19.6                               |
| Contra Costa    | 879,200                       | 92,195  | 10.5                               |
| Del Norte       | 28,250                        | 6,791   | 24.0                               |
| El Dorado       | 142,200                       | 12,695  | 8.9                                |
| Fresno          | 776,200                       | 210,713   | 27.1                               |
| Glenn           | 26,800                        | 5,588   | 20.9                               |
| Humboldt        | 126,600                       | 23,453  | 18.5                               |
| Imperial        | 140,500                       | 39,767  | 28.3                               |
| Inyo            | 18,350                        | 2,892   | 15.8                               |
| Kern            | 628,200                       | 148,708   | 23.7                               |
| Kings           | 118,200                       | 25,211  | 21.3                               |
| Lake            | 54,800                        | 13,455  | 24.6                               |
| Lassen          | 34,450                        | 4,926   | 14.3                               |
| Los Angeles     | 9,488,200                     | 1,812,272   | 19.1                               |
| Madera          | 111,600                       | 28,349  | 25.4                               |
| Marin           | 242,200                       | 13,150  | 5.4                                |
| Mariposa        | 16,000                        | 2,237   | 14.0                               |
| Mendocino       | 85,900                        | 17,476  | 20.3                               |
| Merced          | 201,000                       | 63,247  | 31.5                               |
| Modoc           | 10,150                        | 2,457   | 24.2                               |
| Mono            | 10,400                        | 800   | 7.7                                |
| Monterey        | 371,500                       | 54,339  | 14.6                               |
| Napa            | 120,800                       | 11,099  | 9.2                                |
| Nevada          | 86,600                        | 7,554   | 8.7                                |
| Orange          | 2,659,300                     | 275,663   | 10.4                               |
| Placer          | 209,700                       | 17,641  | 8.4                                |
| Plumas          | 20,350                        | 2,931   | 14.4                               |
| Riverside       | 1,380,000                     | 214,043   | 15.5                               |
| Sacramento      | 1,140,600                     | 238,050   | 20.9                               |
| San Benito      | 44,350                        | 5,980   | 13.5                               |
| San Bernardino  | 1,587,400                     | 311,166   | 19.6                               |
| San Diego       | 2,724,400                     | 344,557   | 12.6                               |
| San Francisco   | 778,100                       | 114,830   | 14.8                               |
| San Joaquin     | 535,400                       | 123,897   | 23.1                               |
| San Luis Obispo | 234,100                       | 23,616  | 10.1                               |
| San Mateo       | 701,100                       | 52,099  | 7.4                                |
| Santa Barbara   | 398,000                       | 48,549  | 12.2                               |
| Santa Clara     | 1,653,100                     | 177,331   | 10.7                               |
| Santa Cruz      | 245,600                       | 27,187  | 11.1                               |
| Shasta          | 162,700                       | 35,486  | 21.8                               |
| Sierra          | 3,360                         | 421   | 12.5                               |
| Siskiyou        | 44,400                        | 9,544   | 21.5                               |
| Solano          | 375,400                       | 46,925  | 12.5                               |
| Sonoma          | 426,900                       | 40,699  | 9.5                                |
| Stanislaus      | 419,500                       | 94,380  | 22.5                               |
| Sutter          | 74,700                        | 13,510  | 18.1                               |
| Tehama          | 54,800                        | 11,565  | 21.1                               |
| Trinity         | 13,400                        | 2,549   | 19.0                               |
| Tulare          | 355,500                       | 104,591   | 29.4                               |
| Tuolumne        | 52,100                        | 6,810   | 13.1                               |
| Ventura         | 716,800                       | 75,089  | 10.5                               |
| Yolo            | 154,500                       | 24,407  | 15.8                               |
| Yuba            | 60,500                        | 19,077  | 31.5                               |

/1/ Average Monthly Eligibles.

Note: Includes regular Fee-For-Service and Managed Care Plans.

Figures are rounded independently and may not add to totals.

Source: State of California, Department of Finance, Population of California Counties, May 1997.

State of California, Department of Health Services, Cumulative Certified  
CID Eligibles, July 1996 through June 1997, run date October 1, 1997.

**TABLE 2**  
**MEDI-CAL PROGRAM**  
**AVERAGE MONTHLY ELIGIBLES, USERS, PROVIDER PAYMENTS,**  
**USERS PER 100 ELIGIBLES, AND COST PER USER BY COUNTY**  
**FISCAL YEAR 1996-97**

| COUNTY          | AVERAGE<br>MONTHLY<br>ELIGIBLES/1/ | AVERAGE<br>MONTHLY<br>USERS/1/ | AVERAGE MONTHLY<br>PROVIDER<br>PAYMENTS/1/ | USERS PER<br>100<br>ELIGIBLES/1/ | COST<br>PER<br>USER/1/ |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| TOTAL           | 3,780,279                          | 2,129,902                      | \$801,481,092                              | 56.3                             | \$ 376.30              |
| Alameda         | 111,302                            | 71,533                         | 31,350,849                                 | 64.3                             | 438.27                 |
| Alpine          | 242                                | 80                             | 23,676                                     | 33.1                             | 295.95                 |
| Amador          | 2,588                              | 1,432                          | 570,048                                    | 55.3                             | 398.08                 |
| Butte           | 43,012                             | 23,116                         | 7,016,978                                  | 53.7                             | 303.56                 |
| Calaveras       | 5,185                              | 2,708                          | 726,552                                    | 52.2                             | 268.30                 |
| Colusa          | 3,587                              | 1,815                          | 491,695                                    | 50.6                             | 270.91                 |
| Contra Costa    | 69,178                             | 38,078                         | 14,747,962                                 | 55.0                             | 387.31                 |
| Del Norte       | 6,791                              | 3,822                          | 1,013,189                                  | 56.3                             | 265.09                 |
| El Dorado       | 12,695                             | 5,967                          | 1,973,180                                  | 47.0                             | 330.68                 |
| Fresno          | 168,352                            | 93,320                         | 26,245,534                                 | 55.4                             | 281.24                 |
| Glenn           | 5,588                              | 2,836                          | 912,101                                    | 50.8                             | 321.62                 |
| Humboldt        | 23,453                             | 13,205                         | 4,326,941                                  | 56.3                             | 327.67                 |
| Imperial        | 39,767                             | 18,789                         | 5,563,277                                  | 47.2                             | 296.09                 |
| Inyo            | 2,892                              | 1,458                          | 546,459                                    | 50.4                             | 374.80                 |
| Kern            | 92,814                             | 52,170                         | 16,770,693                                 | 56.2                             | 321.46                 |
| Kings           | 25,211                             | 13,443                         | 3,912,711                                  | 53.3                             | 291.06                 |
| Lake            | 13,455                             | 7,630                          | 2,288,561                                  | 56.7                             | 299.94                 |
| Lassen          | 4,926                              | 2,526                          | 822,454                                    | 51.3                             | 325.60                 |
| Los Angeles     | 1,397,418                          | 809,637                        | 313,941,555                                | 57.9                             | 387.76                 |
| Madera          | 28,349                             | 14,598                         | 3,900,235                                  | 51.5                             | 267.18                 |
| Marin           | 12,893                             | 7,481                          | 3,132,400                                  | 58.0                             | 418.71                 |
| Mariposa        | 2,237                              | 1,175                          | 376,194                                    | 52.5                             | 320.17                 |
| Mendocino       | 17,476                             | 9,789                          | 3,041,567                                  | 56.0                             | 310.71                 |
| Merced          | 63,247                             | 29,751                         | 7,366,181                                  | 47.0                             | 247.59                 |
| Modoc           | 2,457                              | 1,287                          | 522,064                                    | 52.4                             | 405.64                 |
| Mono            | 800                                | 358                            | 118,864                                    | 44.8                             | 332.02                 |
| Monterey        | 54,339                             | 25,046                         | 10,130,614                                 | 46.1                             | 404.48                 |
| Napa            | 11,099                             | 5,842                          | 3,641,799                                  | 52.6                             | 623.38                 |
| Nevada          | 7,554                              | 4,205                          | 1,611,063                                  | 55.7                             | 383.13                 |
| Placer          | 17,641                             | 9,340                          | 3,551,101                                  | 52.9                             | 380.20                 |
| Plumas          | 2,931                              | 1,713                          | 743,152                                    | 58.4                             | 433.83                 |
| Riverside       | 161,811                            | 83,468                         | 30,008,442                                 | 51.6                             | 359.52                 |
| Sacramento/2/   | 107,527                            | 57,536                         | 21,202,683                                 | 53.5                             | 368.51                 |
| San Benito      | 5,980                              | 2,940                          | 1,032,376                                  | 49.2                             | 351.15                 |
| San Bernardino  | 228,822                            | 121,363                        | 43,447,353                                 | 53.0                             | 358.00                 |
| San Diego       | 255,995                            | 154,155                        | 56,047,439                                 | 60.2                             | 363.58                 |
| San Francisco   | 93,993                             | 63,169                         | 31,180,701                                 | 67.2                             | 493.61                 |
| San Joaquin     | 69,494                             | 45,527                         | 14,779,844                                 | 65.5                             | 324.64                 |
| San Luis Obispo | 23,616                             | 13,143                         | 4,407,023                                  | 55.7                             | 335.31                 |
| Santa Clara     | 149,306                            | 83,155                         | 37,238,027                                 | 55.7                             | 447.81                 |
| Shasta          | 35,486                             | 19,862                         | 7,082,830                                  | 56.0                             | 356.60                 |
| Sierra          | 421                                | 243                            | 197,688                                    | 57.7                             | 813.53                 |
| Siskiyou        | 9,544                              | 5,105                          | 1,448,222                                  | 53.5                             | 283.69                 |
| Sonoma          | 40,304                             | 21,919                         | 15,893,139                                 | 54.4                             | 725.09                 |
| Stanislaus      | 93,223                             | 48,394                         | 14,111,376                                 | 51.9                             | 291.59                 |
| Sutter          | 13,510                             | 7,318                          | 2,271,479                                  | 54.2                             | 310.40                 |
| Tehama          | 11,565                             | 6,307                          | 1,940,488                                  | 54.5                             | 307.67                 |
| Trinity         | 2,549                              | 1,472                          | 535,948                                    | 57.7                             | 364.10                 |
| Tulare          | 104,591                            | 53,415                         | 20,305,902                                 | 51.1                             | 380.15                 |
| Tuolumne        | 6,810                              | 4,104                          | 1,434,601                                  | 60.3                             | 349.56                 |
| Ventura         | 75,089                             | 38,831                         | 16,869,328                                 | 51.7                             | 434.43                 |
| Yolo            | 22,089                             | 11,407                         | 3,224,834                                  | 51.6                             | 282.71                 |
| Yuba            | 19,077                             | 9,418                          | 2,437,064                                  | 49.4                             | 258.77                 |
| Not Reported    | 0                                  | 3,505                          | 3,004,655                                  | 0.0                              | 857.25                 |

/1/ County Organized Health Systems (COHS) counties are not included in this table due to incomplete data.  
Excludes Managed Care Plans.

/2/ Availability of data is limited for Sacramento County.

Most Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) eligibles are covered by Geographic Managed Care (GMC).

Note: Includes regular Fee-For-Service.

Averages are rounded independently and may not add to totals.

Source: State of California, Department of Health Services, Month of Payment Index Files, Fiscal Year 1996-97,  
Cumulative Certified CID Eligibles, and PHP Status Code 1 Reports.